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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/081,891	02/21/2002	Harald Hohenwarter	CH010006	3935
24737	7590	06/17/2004	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			CUNNINGHAM, TERRY D	
P.O. BOX 3001			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			2816	

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Offic Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/081,891	HOHENWARTER, HARALD	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Terry D. Cunningham	2816	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 May 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 21 February 2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yanagawa (USPN 5,994,888). Yanagawa discloses, in Fig. 1, a circuit comprising: “a voltage multiplier (14)”; “a start control unit” having a “comparator (21-24 and 26)” and a “logic unit (12)”; and “a subvoltage generating unit (remainder of circuit), all connected and operating similarly as recited by Applicant.

Examiner has fully considered Applicant’s remarks for the above rejection and has not found them to be persuasive. Applicant argues concerning the claim language of “direct mode” stating “this direct mode of operation occurs during a ‘start time’. Yanagawa does disclose the direct connection of the supply voltage to the output of the voltage multiplier”. Further, Applicant has cited portions of the specification. However, nowhere in the specification, including those cited by Applicant, found to provide an express definition of the phrase “direct mode”. The only citation by Applicant that seems related is lines 14-18 of page 3 which discusses a “direct” application of a supply voltage. However, such does not discuss operation referred to as “direct mode”. The remaining citations by Applicant, which do discuss “direct mode”, do not even seem in any way to “direct” connections. In fact, some citations even refer to the “direct mode” in contrast to a “normal mode”. Using Applicant’s logic a “normal mode” would relate to a “normal” connection. In addition to the specification lacking an express

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definition for the phrase, Examiner contends that the phrase “direct mode” is not known in the art as referring to a “direct connection”, let alone a “direct connection” to a power supply.

Additionally, Applicant’s remarks are not even understood because the use of the phrase “direct mode” in the claims is in reference to the “arrangement” of the circuit, not circuit connections. Also, this would be an improper interpretation because this is a “switched” connection. For a connection to be a “direct connection”, such would necessarily be provided by way of a line or wire. A connection provided by a switch is not generally referred to in the art as a “direct connection”.

Examiner contends that interpreting the phrase “direct mode” as a direct connection of the supply voltage to the output of the voltage multiplier” is clearly an improperly narrow interpretation. The phrase “direct mode” has a vast number of interpretations and uses in the art. Further, it is not seen possible that one can skilled in the art would come to such an interpretation since the claims fail to even recite a “supply voltage”.

Since it would be more than reasonable to view the operation of the circuit to Yanagawa as operating in the “direct mode”, the rejection is hereby maintained.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

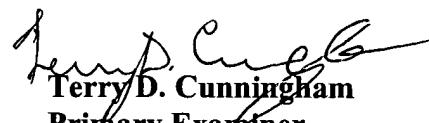
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Terry Cunningham whose telephone number is 571-272-1742. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TC
June 15, 2004


Terry D. Cunningham
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2816